

POLITICAL GOSSIP

Senator Long Tries Another Day in Topeka.

Not Worried About Mr. Stubbs' Bombshell.

STATEMENT GIVEN OUT

Lawrence Statesman Denies Rumors of "Unholy Alliance."

Dares the "Machine" to Bring Out a Candidate.

Senator Long was able to spend one more day in Topeka than he anticipated, owing to the adjournment of the senate because of the death of Senator Proctor. Consequently Senator Long did not leave Topeka until Friday evening.

Before he left, he was asked to make a statement concerning the report that his political enemies had collected a large amount of material concerning his record in the senate which is expected to blow Mr. Long's senatorial ship clear out of the water.

"I hadn't heard anything about it. What is it about? My record? Well, that's all right. I welcome any disclosures concerning my record. That is what I told everybody at the convention. Who got this stuff together? Stubbs, I suppose. Well, that's all right. Let them bring it on."

Senator Long was asked concerning the possibility of another candidate getting into the race for governor, and said he didn't know anything about that.

It is said that Congressman Victor Murdock is planning to write a magazine article attacking Speaker Cannon of the house of representatives.

Mr. Murdock is not satisfied with the way the speaker of the house dictates the policy of the body. He does not approve of the system of "committee packing" practiced by the speaker. He has been unable to appreciate the beauties of having the speaker boss the whole job of legislation, irrespective of the rights and privileges of the members of congress. And for these reasons, it is said, he is planning to tell a few of these facts through the magazines.

Just what magazine Mr. Murdock will choose for his medium is not known here, but Mr. Murdock's Kansas friends are confident that he will go to a good job of skimming when he starts in. Murdock is a clever writer; he knows how to put things in plain English, and he knows what things to say. Murdock may jump in at the head of a "boss busting" party in congress, and make himself such a leader there that he will equal some other red-headed orator in influence in Kansas political matters.

E. B. Schermerhorn, of Galena, chairman of the state board of control, has a more unique boom for governor ever secured by any man in the state of Kansas.

This boom was started by a formerly Riley county man, and one of the leading towns in that county, who is now an inmate of the Topeka insane asylum. This man was quite a politician before his mind went wrong, and since then he has, in his own estimation, become one of the greatest political leaders in the state. For some months he has possessed the idea that Mr. Schermerhorn is running for governor. Every time he would see Mr. Schermerhorn at the asylum, he would call him aside and tell him how his boom was getting along.

"I am getting this boom lined up for you in fine shape," he told Mr. Schermerhorn some weeks ago. "I believe I can deliver the solid vote of this institution for you. Things are looking good."

The other day when the state convention was held here, and the State Journal printed a story indicating that the "machine" crowd of Republicans wanted someone to get into the race for governor in place of Bailey, this former Riley county man became greatly excited. He called for Superintendent Biddle of the asylum and said:

"Now's the time for Schermerhorn to announce himself. Somebody ought to see him and tell him to get down. Well, suppose you call him up and tell him," said Mr. Biddle.

So the man went to the telephone and called up Mr. Schermerhorn at the board of control rooms.

"I want you to publish your announcement for governor at once," he said earnestly. "I know five men up in Riley county who will vote for that county to you without a slip. All you have to do is to announce yourself. I have got the Topeka hospital lined up solid for you, and I believe I can swing the Osawatomie hospital around into line by the time of the primary. We will get all these institutions lined up for you and then nothing can beat you. It's a cinch."

Mr. Schermerhorn promised to consider the proposition carefully.

In commenting on his boom today, Mr. Schermerhorn said:

"The joke of it is that I never was in politics in my life and never hunted an office. But I want to say that if I could get the solid vote of the insane asylum, and the support of all the nut cases outside of the insane asylums, I would be elected governor of Kansas by the biggest majority in the history of the state."

W. R. Stubbs has issued the following "def" to his prospective opponents for the Republican nomination for governor:

"Statements are being widely published that there is now a political alliance or combination between Senator Long and Stubbs. It hardly seems necessary for me to say that this last story is utterly false and without any foundation whatever in fact.

LOSES HIS SUIT.

Kansas Rockefeller Defeated in Supreme Court.

Was Attempting to Collect Balance on a Note.

GERDOM CASE DECIDED

Parents of Topeka Man Who Disappeared Win.

Will Now Get Insurance From Modern Woodmen.

Frank Rockefeller, a brother of John D. Rockefeller, broke into the supreme court of Kansas today and was beaten in a suit which he brought against K. B. Ringle from Reno county. Rockefeller was a member of the Seigel-Saunders Life Stock Commission company, which sold some cattle to Ringle and took a note for \$5,333.36. The note was sold to a bank and the cattle were later sold at a loss which the commission company had to assume. Rockefeller purchased the note from the bank and brought suit to recover the balance due. The district court decided against him and the supreme court affirmed the decision.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gerdorn of Shawnee county will now secure the money due them on a life insurance policy written for their son, John D. Gerdorn, by the Modern Woodmen of America. For the second time the supreme court has held that John Gerdorn for all legal purposes is dead.

John Gerdorn, who was pressman on the State Journal for several years, left Topeka in October, 1895 to go to California. The last heard from him was December 15 of that year, when he was working for the Oakland, Cal. Tribune. During the following year he was said to have worked in several newspaper offices in California, but no definite trace of him was ever made after he left Oakland. Seven years after his disappearance his father and mother brought suit against the Modern Woodmen to collect the insurance policy. The district court gave them a judgment which the supreme court sustained, but a new trial was granted on account of additional evidence which was secured. The case was tried two years ago and was again affirmed by the supreme court today.

In the suit of E. F. Madden against the Cheshire Provident institution from Shawnee county, the supreme court holds that the owner of property may agree to sell to one party but if before the deal is consummated he gets a better offer for another party and sells to him, the buyer has no recourse if he does not know that the owner has not accepted his offer. E. F. Madden made an offer for some real estate in Shawnee county which the Cheshire Provident institution owned. The company accepted the offer, but before the deed was signed or reached Madden, another person made a higher offer for the same property. The offer of Madden was then rejected, and he accepted without any notice to Madden that his offer had even been considered. He brought suit for the damages caused by the increasing price, which he claimed he was entitled to receive. The supreme court says he is not entitled to this money. This affirms the lower court's decision.

The supreme court decided that the act under which the people of Butler county are trying to erect a \$60,000 court house is valid, and not in conflict with the constitution. This was the decision of the decision of the lower court.

The case was brought in the name of the state by Attorney General F. S. Jackson to restrain the county commissioners of Butler county from proceeding to levy a tax to raise money to build a court house. Provision for such act had been made by a law passed by the legislature, applying to a certain class of counties, but intended to affect Butler county only.

The supreme court reversed the decision of Judge Barker in the Shawnee county case, and the supreme court against W. S. Johnson, Chief Justice Johnston dissenting.

This was a suit to recover the value of a lot of pipe and casing used in drilling oil and gas wells which the Oil Well company claims was converted by Johnson to his own use. The oil company did some drilling for E. N. Burr & Co., and took mortgage for the amount due in payment therefor. Later the property was turned over to Johnson who kept it a day or two and then sold it to the oil company in payment of their claim. The lower court decided in favor of Johnson, and the supreme court reversed this decision by a divided vote.

A member of a city council may be a stockholder and a director in a brick company which furnishes material to the city for paving a street and still comply with the statute preventing a member of the city council accepting contracts for city work. George E. Boswell, a member of the council at Coffeyville was a director in the Coffeyville Shale Brick company. The council let a contract for paving to McCullough & Stanton, and the contractors purchased their brick from Boswell's company. Mrs. E. D. Ferguson and others attempted to stop the improvement of the street on the ground that a criminal statute was being violated. It was shown by the trial that Boswell did not know that his company had obtained the contract until long afterwards and that the law was not being violated.

J. S. Simmons, speaker of the Kansas house of representatives was beaten in a lawsuit in the Kansas supreme court today in a case involving the validity of a mortgage on a piece of land in Lane county which Simmons purchased. The question hung on whether a man named Lord who assumed the mortgage and from whom Simmons bought the property had violated the law.

Indians are reported today throughout northern Indiana. The Wabash river today is at the third bench northeast of Lafayette. South Peru is partially under water and the interurban line is out of commission for thirty miles. At Plymouth, Elkhart, Warsaw and other points adjacent rivers are out of banks and many houses are submerged. There has been no loss of life.

El Paso, Tex., March 7.—Fire last night destroyed the boys dormitory and boarding house at the New Mexico school of agriculture at Mesilla Park, and many sleeping students were forced to escape. However, for by the Leavenworth Automobile club a narrow escape, in waking the boys and getting them out of the building as part of the roof fell on him.

Roof Fell on Him.

Kansas City, March 7.—After playing the first nine frames in championship form, J. Kling dropped to the amateur class and Champion Hueston galloped on to an easy victory in the third round. The fourth and final match at the Empire last night. Score—Hueston, 148; Kling, 87. Total score for the 3-nights' play—Hueston, 428; Kling, 265. The fourth and final match will be played at the Empire tonight.

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SHE PUSHED WRONG LEVER.

Woman Autoist Ran Machine Over Man and Killed Him.

Chicago, March 7.—A dispatch to the Record-Herald from Cincinnati, O., says:

Louis Klein, aged 50, who has been a county official for over thirty years, for some time past an assistant in the engineer's office, was run down and almost instantly killed while crossing a street by an automobile driven by Mrs. Charles Haas, wife of a city manufacturer. Mrs. Haas was arrested, charged with manslaughter, and released on \$1,000 bonds. She acknowledged that she had pushed the lever increasing the speed instead of the one to diminish speed.

WRECK ON THE "Q."

Train Goes Over an Embankment at Kearney, Mo.

Kansas City, Mo., March 7.—Burlington passenger train No. 4, which left Kansas City at 7:30 this morning for Chicago, was derailed at Kearney, Mo., 25 miles north of here and went over a 15 foot embankment. Twenty persons were injured, four seriously.

The seriously hurt: J. D. Guyton, Kansas City, horse and mule buyer, head cut, and otherwise injured. R. E. Wilcox, Kansas City, horse buyer, hip broken, hurt internally.

A traveling man from the north, name unknown, unconscious. None of the others injured was seriously hurt, their injuries consisting mostly of cuts and bruises.

The wrecked train was made up of baggage car, smoker and two coaches. It is an accommodation train that stops at every station between Kansas City and Chicago and was not due in Chicago until Sunday morning. The accident was caused by spreading rails. The train was not making more serious results. All but the smoker turned over and went half way down the embankment.

Passengers were sent to the scene from Brookfield and Kearney. The injured were cared for promptly and placed in the smoker until they could be taken to Kearney. There they were picked up by the railroad ambulance and continued on their journey.

None Fire Proof.

Insurance Man Says There's No Building That Can Not Burn.

New York, March 7.—A plan to limit the height of buildings, which would do away entirely with skyscrapers, is being considered by a special committee of the New York city code commission of New York. At a meeting of the committee yesterday Ernest Flagg, architect of the Singer building, was asked to consider the erection of buildings more than one and a half times higher than the width of the street on which they stand.

George W. Babb, representing the board of fire underwriters, advocated a maximum height of 180 feet. About 15 stories, for fireproof buildings. Mr. Babb said that there was no such thing as an absolutely fireproof building and that a fire could not bring any building to the ground.

Will Not Say a Word.

Governor Johnson Still Noncommittal on Subject of Candidacy.

St. Paul, Minn., March 7.—Governor Johnson last night declined to make any statement of his attitude in regard to the action of the Minnesota state central committee. He could not be located this morning, either at his residence or at the capitol. At his office he stated that he would not be down until noon.

His private secretary, F. A. Day, who is chairman of the state committee, said that he was not ready to make a statement yet. "I doubt very much whether he will make any statement as to his position until after the state convention. I presume there is considerable interest in the east as to what position he will take in view of the action of the committee yesterday and the one for today has been, as usual, in the presidential field, I know he will not say anything now."

Women in Frat Houses.

Sensational Indictments Against Chicago High School Societies.

Chicago, March 7.—The gravest indictment that has yet been drawn against the secret societies in the Chicago high schools is in the hands of President Schneider of the board of education.

It is contained in a report of an investigation made by the president of the city police department.

In substance, the police report charges that gross immorality is practiced at several of the fraternities, and that specific instances are cited in which women (not connected in any way with the schools) have been found, harbored in the houses, and the boys in each case being named.

Colder This Morning.

The mercury took a drop during last night and at 7 o'clock this morning registered five degrees below the freezing point which is the lowest point reached since the 27th of last month. The weather offering for tomorrow will not be as acceptable as the one for today has been, as cloudy weather may prevail without any marked change in the temperatures. The sun is shining brightly today with temperatures a number of degrees above the minimum this morning.

The following were the temperatures for today:

7 o'clock 27 11 o'clock 35
8 o'clock 28 12 o'clock 37
9 o'clock 22 1 o'clock 40
10 o'clock 34 2 o'clock 43

(Continued on Page Twelve.)

WILL BE NO WAR.

That Is if China Does Everything Japan Demands.

Mikado Is Disposed to Allow Her Plenty of Time.

MILD BUT INSISTENT

Is the Policy That Is Being Pursued at Tokio.

Flag That Was Hauled Down Must Be Put Up Again.

Tokio, March 7.—"Japan will not resort to force in connection with the seizure of the steamer Tatsu unless compelled to do so by the action of China." This statement was given to the Associated Press correspondent today by a high authority in the foreign office, who continuing said:

"We propose to use the utmost patience and fully understand the difficulty the central government of China has in dealing with viceroys who possess extensive constitutional powers."

"It is quite apparent that the viceroys of Canton acted hastily in relying on information which stated that the Tatsu was engaged in smuggling arms. He conceived therefore that he had a right to seize the vessel when the facts show that the vessel's papers, including a manifest of arms consigned to regular form to a firm in Macao were entirely legal. A representative of the firm in Macao boarded the vessel accompanied by the Portuguese authorities before her seizure by a Chinese vessel. She was undoubtedly then in territorial waters. The fact that this is a clear claim of violation of her national rights and an insult to the flag was proved by the Chinese themselves in offering to restore the ship together with a further promise received today to reprimand the officials who lowered the Japanese flag. Notwithstanding this, while we were determined to concede what we believe is proper, but to ultimately enforce our demands, should China refuse to listen to reason, the world may be assured that Japan will act hastily, but will weigh her future actions with the utmost deliberation."

This interview was given after a cabinet meeting. The Japanese foreign minister Hayaishi said later to the Associated Press correspondent that it was then determined not to immediately reinforce the cruiser Izumi now at Canton, but that the Izumi, which was used as a training vessel, would remain there a few days longer.

The Japanese government contains an offer to punish officials connected with the seizure and also a statement from Yuan Shi-Kai that he desired further time for consideration of the Japanese demands. "This will be granted by the Japanese government and is confidently believed that an agreement will be reached between the Japanese and the central government."

The Chinese minister at Tokio, held a lengthy conference with Baron Chinda, vice minister of foreign affairs this morning. During the session, Baron Chinda, the Chinese minister first contended that because Portugal held Macao waters under treaty, therefore the waters were actually under Chinese sovereignty. Later, however, the minister abandoned this contention, when instances were quoted of other leases, such as that of Weihai and Kiao-Chow elsewhere cited. The foreign office does not expect any further developments for a few days, the only points remaining being the return of the Chinese arms, which Japan continues to demand also raising the Japanese flag on the Tatsu with appropriate ceremony.

Japan's Ultimatum.

Pekin, March 7.—Japan's ultimatum in the case of the Japanese steamship Tatsu Maru was presented to the head of the Chinese foreign bureau yesterday and today the board has the matter under consideration. The Tatsu Maru was seized off Macao on February 7, by Chinese customs cruisers on the charge that her cargo of arms and ammunition was intended for Chinese revolutionists, although consigned to a merchant of that place. The steamer was held at Whampoa, on the Canton river.

The irreducible minimum of the Japanese claims is the restoration of the steamer, with all her cargo and the payment of a full indemnity. Action is demanded within a "reasonable time" in case of default or postponement Japan, according to the terms of her ultimatum, will "take immediate action."

Japan expects a reply by tomorrow. She will not tolerate China's offer to investigate the case; she insists upon an apology for the hauling down of the Japanese flag on the Tatsu yesterday, and today she has accepted mediation, affirming that China is in error and that the facts are incontrovertible.

Baron Hayaishi, the Japanese minister to China, in conveying the ultimatum, made reference to Japan's sympathy for China in the matter of contraband traffic in arms and explained that China could not admit the participation of the Portuguese.

ARMY CAR GETS IN.

Was a Little Over 18 Days Coming From New York.

Leavenworth, Kan., March 7.—The American car carrying a message from General Grant in New York to Colonel R. H. R. Loughborough, commander at Ft. Leavenworth, arrived here at 11:32 o'clock this morning. The exact running time from New York was 18 days, 2 hours, 32 minutes.

Practically the whole garrison of Ft. Leavenworth turned out to meet the car. It was escorted to the fort by the Leavenworth Automobile club with fifty machines which had been organized but a few days before for the express purpose of greeting the visitor. Irvin Inover, a New York newspaper man, who carried the message delivered it to Colonel Loughborough, a few minutes after arrival.

The car was in charge of Jack Hugs, who had driven it from Lincoln, Neb. Milburn Smith, also of Lincoln, was the third member of the party.

ANNA GOULD COMING HOME.

She Will Spend Three Months With Her Relatives.

Paris, March 7.—Madame Anna Gould, who recently secured a divorce from her husband, Count Boni de Castellane, today authorized the Associated Press to give absolute denial to the report that she had been married to Prince Helle de Sagan.

Mme. Gould has announced her intention of leaving here shortly for the United States with her children to spend three months with her relatives. It is understood that Count Boni consented to her taking the children from France which is required by the decree of divorce already secured.

A secret marriage in France is almost impossible, because the law requires the publication of the bans a fortnight in advance. Furthermore, such a union is a marriage contract, a French marriage provides that the property of both husband and wife be held in common, and Mme. Gould's lawyers have arranged no such contract for her.

CHARGES AGAINST DAY.

Methodist Brother Says Chancellor Defamed Character of the President.

Brandon, Vt., March 7.—Charges have been preferred by the Rev. George Cooke, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church in Brandon, against the Rev. J. R. Day, LL. D., chancellor of Syracuse university, on the ground that Dr. Day defamed the character of President Roosevelt. The charges have been presented to the Rev. Dr. R. M. Waters, presiding elder of the New York conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which Chancellor Day is ecclesiastically attached.

When interviewed concerning the allegations, the Rev. Dr. Cooke said it was true he had brought charges against Chancellor Day. He said that in a book entitled "A Raid on Prosperity" written by Chancellor Day, the president Roosevelt was severely criticized and that in his opinion Dr. Day had violated the rules of the Methodist Episcopal church in thus assailing the president.

The Rev. Mr. Cooke said that the specific charge preferred was defamation of character. He considered that the Methodist Episcopal church has obligations to the Standard Oil people by reason of large gifts. Chancellor Day was not justified as a minister of the gospel in thus assailing the president Roosevelt. The university itself is nonsectarian. It is believed that the charges will be passed upon at the conference of the New York district.

The Rev. Mr. Cooke has brought charges of heresy against several preachers of the Methodist Episcopal church, regarded as being very active in this line.

SIX STILL MISSING.

Bodies Taken From the Collapsed Ruins Number 167.

Cleveland, March 7.—The last of the little victims of the Collinwood school fire to perish was Glenn Barber, aged eight years, died of early diphtheria in a hospital from injuries sustained in his leap from the second story window of the school building.

In casting up the total of pupils who were in the school the day of the fire it develops that